

To: Federal Communications Commission

Subject: WT Docket 05-235

Comments:

I urge the FCC to retain the 5 word per minute International Morse Code requirement for the Extra Class Amateur Radio License. I echo the opinion of many that CW operation using Morse Code is an invaluable mode in times of poor band conditions, emergency and storm situations when phone or other means of communication are less effective.

I welcome and use some of the new digital modes allowed for Amateur Radio operators. But I still maintain that a simple, light weight CW transmitter and receiver can be invaluable during times with there are wide spread and prolonged power outages or other emergency situations.

I believe that having a sizable group of amateur radio operators with the ability to send and receive CW transmissions is a national resource that must be maintained for use in times of widespread natural or man made disasters. Keeping the CW / Morse Code requirement for the Extra Class amateur radio license will allow insure that this national resource is maintained while those with other capabilities, interests and talents in the communications and radio arts to enter the hobby under the Technician and General Class levels. This will keep the hobby and the valuable public service aims of amateur radio alive and growing.

Sincerely,
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